

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for preventing duplicate matching entries in a TLB is disclosed. Each entry in the TLB has an Include bit that specifies whether to include or exclude the entry in tag match determinations. When a TLB write is attempted, if the write tag matches a tag in an entry of the TLB, the entry's Include bit is cleared so that the entry is excluded in subsequent match determinations. Furthermore, if the matching entry is an entry other than the entry to be written, and the matching entry is valid, and the value to be written to the entry is valid, then an exception is generated and the write is aborted. When an entry is successfully written, its Include bit is set so that the entry is included in subsequent match determinations. The Include bit is also used to qualify tag lookup match determinations.